

The Life and Times of Ann Moore Ridgely

Dover – On Saturday, October 3 at 10:30 a.m., Dr. Susanne Fox will present a program at the Delaware Public Archives about Ann Moore Ridgely. A most unusual woman, Ridgely lived in Dover from 1775 until 1810 when she died. She was a wife, mother, estate manager, widow, and active member of the Dover community. Married to Dr. Charles Ridgely, her husband died in 1785, leaving her with five young children whom she reared by herself. To complement this program, the Delaware Public Archives will be displaying a set of documents related to Ann Moore Ridgely and the Ridgely family.

Dr. Susanne Fox recently retired from Wesley College where she taught U.S. History, American Culture, Irish History, and Travel Courses to Ireland, Italy, France, Belgium, and Spain for forty years. She holds an A. B. in History from Randolph-Macon Woman's College, an M.A. in History from the College of William and Mary, and a Ph.D. in the History of American Civilization from the University of Delaware. Her dissertation "Gentry Family Dynamics: The Ridgelys of Kent County, Delaware, 1775-1810" was based on over 800 Ridgely family letters, and other Ridgely family papers and account books housed in the Delaware Public Archives.

The program is free to the public and will last approximately one hour. No reservations are required. For more information, contact Tom Summers (302) 744-5047 or e-mail thomas.summers@delaware.gov.

The Delaware Public Archives is located at 121 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard North in Dover. The Mabel Lloyd Ridgely Research Room is open to the public Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. On the second Saturday of every month the research room is open from 9 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.